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**TITLE: “A STUDY ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AMONG THE SELF HELP GROUP WOMEN IN RURAL WARDHA.”**

**NAMES OF AUTHORS:** PAWAR RD, RAUT AV, MEHENDALE AM, GARG BS

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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND:

Violence against women is a major public health and human rights issue in the World today. The promotion of Gender equality, Women’s empowerment & ending violence against women is essential to achieve human development. The MDG 2000 provides a special focus on non discrimination on the basis of sex.

Gender based issue is scantily addressed in our society and negligible in rural area. So, this study was designed to assess the prevalence of domestic violence.

OBJECTIVES:

**.** To find the prevalence of violence against women in the adopted community

**.** To create awareness amongst all community empowered groups.

METHODOLOGY:

Present cross sectional study was conducted in the SHG group women from 16 villages in Primary Health Center area of Anji. One SHG was randomly selected from every village for study purpose. All the women in the group were interviewed after taking informed consent. A Female social worker was constantly present during the interview for building confidence. Present study was carried out from Oct 2010- Dec 2010. A semi structured, pre tested and pre designed questionnaire on domestic violence was used as a study tool. Data was collected and analyzed with Epi Info 2000. Univariate analysis was done to find distribution of background characteristics. And appropriate statistical test was applied to find association.

RESULTS: Out of women 54.1% of women were belonging to OBC and 24.6% were from (SC/ST). Median education among the members was 10th standard with nearly 8.2 % of them were illiterate. History of domestic violence was present in 26.4% of cases, 16.4% were threatened with weapon. Sexual violence was also seen in nearly 16.4% of the cases which was an important finding in rural setting. Conclusion: The prevalence found in our study was 24.6% which is much below than reported by NFHS 3. This is might be attributed because of the women empowerment in the study area. Hence its advised to work for women empowerment as any kind of violence against women should not be promoted.